

# Report for the 40th Session of the World Heritage Committee

## Istanbul (Turkey), 10 to 20 July 2016

**Date of the Report:** 2016.04.12

**Name of the Centre:** International Centre on Space Technologies for Natural and Cultural Heritage (HIST) under the Auspices of UNESCO

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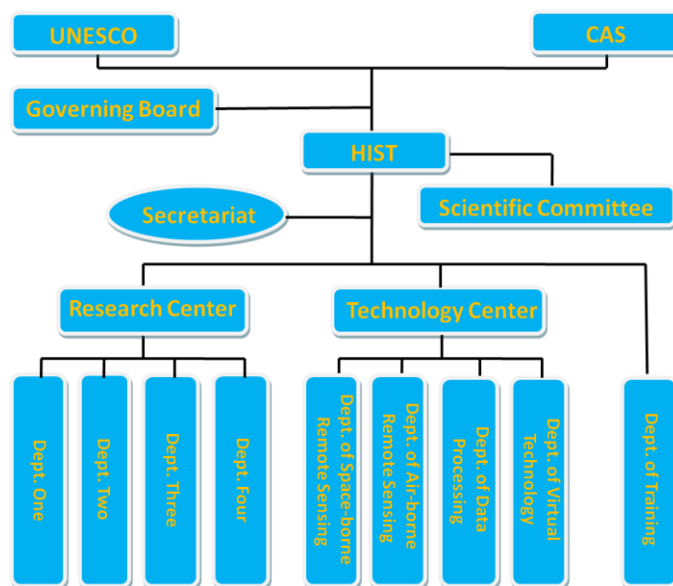
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### **1. Institutional and operational structure of the Centre (Governing Board, Staffing, Operational funding and premises)**

The operation and management of HIST is carried out under the direction of a Governing Board. The Governing Board is the decision-making body in charge of examining and approving the mid-term strategy, annual work report and annual programs and budget, supervising HIST in its implementation of the Board's decisions, and promoting cooperation and exchange with UNESCO, its Member States and relevant international organizations. The Scientific Committee of HIST comprises some 30 experts and scholars from China in the fields of space technologies and natural and cultural heritage to provide professional consultation for HIST's strategy and annual work plan. HIST Executive Team is composed of a secretariat and nine departments: four Research Departments and Departments of Space-borne Remote Sensing, Airborne Remote Sensing, Data Processing, Virtual Technology and International Training.



HIST Organization

Since established, HIST's annual operational funding is provided by its hosting institution: Institute of Remote Sensing and Digital Earth (RADI) of the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

Chinese Academy of Sciences, representing the Government of China, started to provide annual operational budget to HIST since 2015 in addition to the operational funding provided annually by RADI.

**2. Updates on the management of the Centre – particularly on meetings of the Governing Board and key decisions adopted**

HIST had its 5<sup>th</sup> session of the Governing Board which adopted the Annual Work Report and examined the implementation of the Biennial Work Plan 2015-2016. Advices have been provided to the Executive Team on the activities to be conducted in 2016. Just prior to the Governing Board session, an academic seminar was held to facilitate exchange among the scientists of HIST, Governing Board members and experts of the 4 mixed World Heritage sites in China.

**3. Programs and activities implemented since April 2015 and planned for the current year**

N.	Title of the activity	Reference to WHCBS <sup>1</sup>
1	Establishment of the Union of UNESCO Category-II Centres in China and Mr. Hong Tianhua, Executive	

<sup>1</sup>WHCBS stands for the World Heritage Capacity Building Strategy (see: <http://whc.unesco.org/archive/2011/whc11-35com-9Be.pdf> )

	Deputy Director of HIST, was elected as the Secretary-General of the Union (May 20-30, 2015)	
<b>2</b>	One researcher delegated to National Institute for Space Research in Brazil to do collaborative research (November, 2015)	<b>7.1</b>
<b>3</b>	the 6th East Asian Biosphere Reserve Network (EABRN) Training Workshop, 20-30 May 2015 and more than 20 participants from East Asia and beyond attended the Workshop	<b>3.7</b>
<b>4</b>	MOU with Wudalianchi Administration Committee for the establishment of HIST Wudalianchi Research and Training Base, 20 May 2015	<b>3.7</b>
<b>5</b>	MOU with the Regional Post-Graduate Training School of Integrated Management of Tropical Forests and Lands (ERAIFT) to promote collaboration on application of space technologies for conservation, monitoring, management and sustainable development of UNESCO designated World Heritage sites, biosphere reserves and geoparks, particularly those within Congo basin rainforests in Central Africa, 9 June 2015	<b>7.1</b>
<b>6</b>	International Seminar on Volcanic Geo-heritage, 10 September 2015	<b>4.8</b>
<b>7</b>	Co-host of " Karst Landscape, Global Geopark, Natural World Heritage, Environment Geological Mapping and Data Mining " Training course, 20 September – 06 October, 2015, Guilin, China	<b>3.7</b>
<b>8</b>	Sanya Training Base of HIST established, 23 November 2015, Sanya, Hainan, China	<b>3.7</b>
<b>9</b>	Co-host of the International Symposium on Earth Observation for Maritime Silk Road, 25-27 November 2015, Sanya, Hainan Province, China	<b>4.8</b>
<b>10</b>	Participate in the Regional Meeting on the Action Plan of World Heritage in the Pacific Island Countries 2016-2020. December, 2015. Fiji.	
<b>11</b>	Training Course of "Space Technology and its application on World Heritage" for the staff of APSARA (Authority for the Protection and Management of Angkor and the Region of Siem Reap), 4-5 December 2015, Siem Reap, Cambodia	<b>3.7</b>
<b>12</b>	Project of "Remote Sensing for Environment of Angkor Site" continued in Cambodia, whole year of 2015.	<b>7.1</b>
<b>13</b>	Project of Using Space Technologies for East Rennell World Heritage Site in Danger finished in March, 2016	<b>7.1</b>

<b>14</b>	A Virtual Satellite Ground Receiving Station will be launched for Arthur C. Clarke Institute of Modern Technology ( ACCIMT) in Sri Lanka, May 2016	<b>3.6</b>
<b>15</b>	Co-host of the International Symposium on Earth Observations for One Belt and One Road, Programmed: 16-17 May 2016, Beijing, China	<b>4.8</b>
<b>16</b>	Co-organizer of UNESCO science related C2C meeting in Beijing, Programmed: 16-18 May, 2016	<b>4.8</b>
<b>17</b>	The 3rd International Training Workshop on Space Technology Applications for World Heritage, Programmed: 22 June - 10 July 2016	<b>3.7</b>
<b>18</b>	Participate in the 40 <sup>th</sup> Session of the World Heritage Committee in Istanbul, Turkey, 10-20 July, 2016	
<b>19</b>	The 4th International Training Workshop on Space Technology Applications for World Heritage, Programmed: September 2016	<b>3.7</b>
<b>20</b>	The 2nd Huangshan Dialogue on UNESCO Designated Places and Sustainable Development, Programmed: 12-14 September 2016	<b>4.8</b>
<b>21</b>	Visit to ERAIFT in the Republic of Congo and Authorities for World Heritage in Ethiopia and Kenya on possibility of initiating projects of using space technologies for world heritage sites, October, 2016	<b>7.1</b>

4. **Website of the Centre (if available):** <http://www.unesco-hist.org>

**5. Designated Focal Point(s) (name, title and contact information)**

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